

# FISCAL NOTE

**Bill #:** HB0694

**Title:** Fund veterinarians providing low-cost and no-cost spay and neuter services

**Primary Sponsor:** Raser, H

**Status:** As Introduced

Sponsor signature

Date

David Ewer, Budget Director

Date

## Fiscal Summary

	<b><u>FY 2006 Difference</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2007 Difference</u></b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
General Fund	\$39,233	\$30,576
State Special Revenue	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>Revenue:</b>		
State Special Revenue	\$20,000	\$20,000
<b>Net Impact on General Fund Balance:</b>	(\$39,233)	(\$30,576)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget           | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 |

## Fiscal Analysis

### ASSUMPTIONS:

#### **Department of Justice (DOJ)**

1. This bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture as a state agency to sponsor a generic specialty license plate to fund veterinarians providing low-cost and no-cost spay and neuter services for cats and dogs via donations made for the purchase of special license plates.
2. The Department of Agriculture will be responsible for the costs for the design and application fees for the new special license plate and managing the grants provided for by this bill.
3. There will be no fiscal impact for the Department of Justice.

#### **Department of Agriculture (DOA)**

4. The department would need to administer a grant program to counties and state veterinarians. Responsibilities under the program include design of the specialty license plate, establishment of grant criteria, adoption of administrative rules to implement the program, and administration of the grant program.
5. The department will need 0.50 FTE, grade 14 to conduct the work of the program. An entry grade 14 salary plus benefits will cost \$18,808. The department will absorb the costs of providing administrative and accounting support for the program.

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6. The department will need \$2,979 for start up-costs and an additional \$14,028 in operating in FY 2006 (total of \$17,007) and then \$8,350 in subsequent years.
7. Specialty license initiation cost is \$4,000 or the guarantee of 400 plates at \$30/plate during a three year period of time. The department anticipates the lesser of the two costs (\$4,000) for implementation of this bill.
8. The Department of Justice, Division of Motor Vehicles has indicated that the number of specialty license plates issued is highly variable (2 to 8,434). The Division of Motor Vehicles retires specialty license plate designs if less than 400 license plates are sold in a period of three years. The bill directs revenue generated from the sale of the specialty license plates be used for dog and cat spay/neuter grants. If 1,000 license plates were purchased each year, \$20,000 in funding would be available for grants.

**Department of Corrections (DOC)**

9. The department would be required to manufacture the new specialty license plates but there would be no fiscal impact.

**FISCAL IMPACT:****Department of Agriculture (DOA)**

	<u>FY 2006</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Difference</u>
FTE	0.50	0.50

**Expenditures:**

Personal Services	\$22,226	\$22,226
Operating Expenses	\$17,007	\$ 8,350
Grants	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL	\$59,233	\$50,576

**Funding of Expenditures:**

General Fund (01)	\$39,233	\$30,576
State Special Revenue (02)	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL	\$59,233	\$50,576

**Revenues:**

State Special Revenue (02)	\$20,000	\$20,000
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**Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):**

General Fund (01)	(\$39,233)	(\$30,576)
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0

**TECHNICAL NOTES:****Department of Justice (DOJ)**

1. 61-3-478, MCA, states that the sponsor of a generic specialty license plate shall pay a \$4,000 fee to reimburse the Department of Corrections for the prison industries training program for the initial costs incurred in producing the generic specialty license plates. In lieu of the \$4,000 fee, a minimum of 400 applications for a sponsor's generic specialty license plate must be filed and prepaid with the department before the generic specialty license plates may be manufactured and issued.

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(continued)

**Department of Agriculture (DOA)**

2. The intent of the bill could best be realized by having the counties administer their own dog and cat spay/neuter grant program from funding received from specialty plates within their county. The program could be combined with the animal control activities to maximize animal husbandry and control efforts.